

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES OF CECIDOMYIDÆ.

BY WILLIAM BEUTENMULLER, NEW YORK.

Asphondylia solidaginis, sp. nov.—Male and female. Eyes black. Face and posterior portion of the head sordid-orange, with a few long black hairs. Neck orange. Thorax above slaty-brown, with short whitish hairs in the two longitudinal grooves, and with rather long brownish hairs along the sides. Scutellum slaty-brown. Sides of thorax dull orange, marked with black. Abdomen dull slaty-brown, sparsely covered with short appressed whitish hairs; junctions of segments dull orange; under side wholly dull orange with whitish hairs. Legs of female black, femora whitish basally, junctions of femora and tibiæ narrowly white: first joint of tarsi pinkish-white. Legs of male paler than in the female, somewhat pinkish in certain lights, and with the white band on the junction of the femora and tibiæ less distinct. Wings densely covered with blackish scales. Halteres dull orange, with brownish-black scales. Length of male, 2.50 to 2.75 mm.; of female, 2.50 to 3 mm. Expanse of male, 4.50 mm.; of female, 6 mm.

Gall.—Monothalamous. Pale green, rounded somewhat, blister-like, much broader than high, single, or two or three in a row coalescing. Inside it is white, and contains a large larval chamber. It is formed between two, three or four leaves fastened together, the gall protruding on the upper and under side of the leaves. Width, 2.50 to 3.50 mm.; height, 2 mm.

Habitat.—Fort Lee, New Jersey; Staten Island and Bronx Park, New York City; Valley of the Black Mts., North Carolina (W. B.); Ithaca, New York (J. G. Needham).

Very common in certain localities.

The gall is evidently formed in the young buds of the plant when the immature leaves are galled by the larva, and remain fastened together as the leaves develop and become mature. The gall becomes mature late in June and early in July. The larvæ transform in the galls, and the flies emerge early in July. The gall is found on the Golden-rod (*Solidago serotina*), and it seems to be confined to this species of plant.

Cecidomyia lysimachiae, sp. nov.—Male and female. Eyes black; face and posterior portion of the head white. Antennæ brown. Thorax

deep brown above, with golden-brown hairs along the middle and at the sides to the base of the wings. Thorax at the sides and beneath semi-translucent, red. Scutellum red. Abdomen blood-red, with a very broad, brown band on each segment; sides and beneath blood-red, with a few pale scales. Wings blackish-hyaline. Legs fuscous above, pale brown beneath. Halteres reddish. Expanse, 3 mm.

Gall.—Bud-like, and composed of immature leaves drawn together. It is formed at the extreme summit of the plant.

Habitat.—Fort Lee, New Jersey; Bronx Park, New York City.

The eggs are deposited in the young buds of the Loosestrife (*Lysimachia quadrifolia*), causing them to remain aborted and fastened together. The flies emerge late in June. After the flies have emerged, the deformed leaves of the galled buds begin to expand.

Cecidomyia myricæ, sp. nov.—Male and female. Eyes dark brown; front semi-translucent, sordid white. Antennæ as long as the body, fuscous; first and second joints semi-translucent, white. Thorax dull brown, smooth, with two yellowish longitudinal lines on the dorsum; posterior portion and scutellum dull amber-yellow, sides of thorax dull amber-yellow marked with brown. Abdomen dull amber-yellow above and below, sparsely beset with brown hairs. Legs fuscous. Wings hyaline, with black scales. Halteres semi-translucent, yellowish. Length, .75 to 1 mm.

Habitat.—Carlstadt, New Jersey.

Bred Aug. 2nd to 5th from bud-galls on *Myrica cerifera*. The larvæ live in numbers in the buds of this plant, causing them to become deformed. The larvæ pupate in the ground.

Cecidomyia meibomiifoliae, sp. nov.—Male and female. Eyes black. Thorax and abdomen pale orange, the latter somewhat darker dorsally. Antennæ and legs fuscous. Wings blackish, hyaline. Length, 1.25 to 1.50 mm.

Habitat.—Carlstadt, New Jersey.

The larvæ live in the buds of *Meibomia Canadense*, causing an arrest of growth of the leaves. Collected July 11th. Adults emerged July 20th to 25th. Larvæ pupate in the ground.

Cecidomyia verbenæ, sp. nov.—Male and female. Head and thorax pale semi-translucent, yellow. Eyes black. Antennæ fuscous, whitish at

the junctions of the segments, with long brown hairs in the male, simple in the female. Abdomen pale semi-translucent, orange or yellow; posterior portions of the segments with rather long concolorous hairs directed backward. Legs pale yellow. Wings yellowish, hyaline. Length, 1 to 1.25 mm.

Habitat.—Bronx Park, New York City; Fort Lee, New Jersey.

The larvæ of this species live in numbers between the unexpanded young leaves of the common white or Nettle-leaved Vervain (*Verbena urticifolia*), causing them to become deformed and twisted. Collected July 8th to 10th. The flies emerged from July 15th to 25th. The larvæ transform in the ground.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT NEWARK, N. J.

The headquarters of the Newark Entomological Society, on the fourth floor of the Newark Turn Hall, were completely destroyed by fire in the early morning of June 3rd, 1907. The conflagration demolished not only the entire building, but also resulted in the loss of three lives.

The property of the Society consisted of a forty-drawer cabinet, containing 1,000 specimens of Lepidoptera and 2,500 specimens of Coleoptera, mostly representing local forms, besides a small collection in other orders; also a book-case with 110 bound volumes and 365 unbound volumes and pamphlets. All of this property was consumed by the flames, except a few books that were in the hands of members. This collection of publications and insects was the accumulation of over 20 years of the Society's existence, and as the loss was only partially covered by insurance it will be a long time before it can be replaced. Some of the books, perhaps, can never be obtained again.

The Society will be exceedingly grateful for any help in the way of restoring the library that may be given it. Entomologists are earnestly invited to send separates of their papers or other publications that they may have in duplicate, for which the cost of transmission will be gladly refunded. Until the Society is again established in permanent quarters, parcels should be addressed to the secretary at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

JOHN A. GROSSBECK, Secretary.